

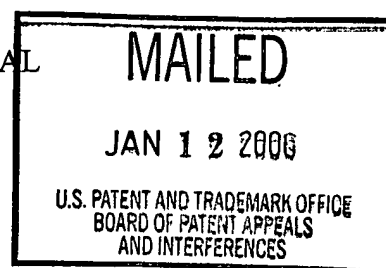
The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication in a law journal and is not binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte STEFAN GEORG HILD and SANDEEP K. SINGHAL

Application No. 09/532,937



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on January 4, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Appellant filed a Information Disclosure Stated (IDS) dated June 24, 2004. There is no indication on the record that the Information Disclosure Statement was considered by the Examiner and the related Form 1449 needs to be signed. A written communication notifying appellant of the Examiner's consideration is required

APPEAL BRIEF

A review of the file indicates that on December 22, 2004, appellants filed an Appeal Brief under the rules set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c). However, the Appeal Brief filed on December 22, 2004, does not fully comply with the new rules under 37 CFR § 41.37(c).

37 CFR § 41.37(c) states in part:

(c)(1) The brief shall contain the following items under appropriate headings and in the order indicated in paragraphs (c)(1)(I) through (c)(1)(x) of this section, except that a brief filed by an appellant who is not represented by a registered practitioner need only substantially comply with paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(iv) and (c)(1)(vii) through (c)(1)(x) of this section:

(ix) ***Evidence appendix.*** An appendix containing copies of any evidence submitted pursuant to §§ 1.130, 1.131, 1.132 of this title or of any other evidence entered by the examiner and relied upon by appellant in the appeal, along with a statement setting forth where in the record that evidence was entered in the record by the examiner. Reference to unentered evidence is not permitted in the brief. See § 41.33 for treatment of evidence submitted after appeal. This appendix may also include copies of the evidence relied upon by the examiner as to grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal.

(x) ***Related proceedings appendix.*** An appendix containing copies of decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section.

An in-depth review of the Appeal Brief indicates that the following sections are missing from the Appeal Brief filed June 13, 2005:

- 1) "Evidence Appendix," as set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(ix); and
- 2) "Related Proceedings Appendix," as set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(x).

Application No. 09/532,937

It is required that a supplemental Appeal Brief be submitted that is in compliance with 37 CFR § 41.37(c). For more information on the Board's new rules, please see the web page entitled "More Information on the Rules of Practice Before the BPAI," Final Rule at:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/bpai/fr2004/moreinfo.html>.

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

On May 5, 2005, an Examiner's Answer was mailed. A review of the Examiner's Answer reveals that it is not in compliance with the headings as set forth in the new rules under 37 CFR § 41.37(c) which went into affect September 13, 2004. Accordingly, correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner to:

- 1) consideration and proper written response to the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 24, 2004;
- 2) hold the Appeal Brief filed on December 22, 2004, defective;
- 3) to notify appellants to file a supplemental Appeal Brief in compliance with 37 CFR § 41.37;

Application No. 09/532,937

4) to vacate the Examiner's Answer mailed May 5, 2005, to consider the supplemental Appeal Brief; and submit a revised Examiner's Answer in accordance with the new rules effective September 13, 2004; and

5) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. M. Shaw', written over a horizontal line.

DALE M. SHAW
Program and Resource Administrator
(571)272-9797

DMS/dpv

Application No. 09/532,937

A. Bruce Clay
IBM Corporation Dept. T81/062
3039 Cornwallis Road
RTP, NC 27709